



# PROGRAM SPONSOR ALERT

Date: October 21, 2010

Number: 10-19

Subject: Designated Subjects CTE Credentials: Authorization for ELL, Adding a CTE Credential and Completing Prior Vocational Education Programs

## Summary

This Program Sponsor Alert clarifies the following three topics for the new Career Technical Education Credentials:

1. the authorization for teaching English Language Learners (ELL) with the Preliminary CTE Credential
2. the requirements for obtaining a Designated Subjects Career Technical Education Credential when the teacher already holds another clear teaching credential
3. completing prior vocational education/CTE programs

## Background

In August 2008 the Commission approved new standards for Career Technical Education (CTE) preparation programs. These standards were developed to be consistent with other teacher education standards and the Teaching Performance Expectations (TPE). New CTE credentials were also structured to be consistent with the new preparation standards. The new CTE Preliminary Credential is valid for three years and authorizes teaching of CTE, during which time CTE teacher candidates are expected to enroll and participate in an approved CTE teacher preparation program. Completion of the program to clear the credential requires 9 semester units or 135 hours of professional preparation. The preparation for individuals to teach English language learners (ELL) is embedded throughout the new preparation programs. The new credentials and preparation programs replace the old Vocational Education Level 1 and Level II programs as of August 31, 2010. Holders of the five-year CTE or Vocational Education Credentials will be allowed to complete either the old vocational education program or the new CTE program.

### **Teaching ELL While Holding the Preliminary CTE Credential**

The Career Technical Education (CTE) Program Standards (2008) require preparation for teaching English language learners (ELL) to be embedded in the preparation program. Therefore, the Clear CTE Credential authorizes teaching ELL. With the Preliminary Credential, CTE teacher candidates may teach while completing teacher preparation. However, the Preliminary Credential does not authorize teaching ELL. Until all requirements for the Clear CTE Credential are completed, holders of the Preliminary CTE Credential may obtain a waiver annually for teaching ELL as long as they are making progress toward completing the requirements. If candidates are employed to teach classes which include ELLs, the employer may request a Commission waiver for ELL authorization each year that the individual holds the Preliminary Credential. Teacher candidates should not be recommended for the waiver if they cannot verify enrollment (first waiver) and progress (second and possibly third waivers) in the preparation program. Candidates should be provided the opportunity and encouraged to complete the clear credential requirements as early as possible to avoid the need for additional waivers.

### **Requirements for Adding a Designated Subjects CTE Credential When an Individual Holds Another Teaching Credential**

Approved CTE teacher preparation programs may waive all CTE preparation except the CTE Foundations (Program Standard 13) for teachers holding a multiple subject, single subject or education specialist teaching credential. This is an example of a program granting an equivalency because the individual already holds another teaching credential. Holders of one of the identified teaching credentials:

- should only be required to complete the CTE Foundations component of the recommending program.
- should have at least one year of teaching experience while holding the credential and two years of occupational experience in the specific industry sector for the CTE credential they wish to obtain.
- will need one additional year of documented successful CTE teaching experience to clear the CTE credential.

### **Completing the Prior Vocational Education/CTE Programs**

Since August 31, 2010, prior vocational education programs may no longer recommend for preliminary credentials. The Commission no longer issues five-year preliminary CTE credentials. Only programs approved based on the new CTE teacher preparation standards may submit recommendations for CTE preliminary credentials. Therefore:

- Individuals who hold the five year preliminary vocational education or CTE credential may complete the prior vocational education/CTE program if enrolled by August 31, 2010. No new candidates may be admitted to old programs after August 31, 2010.
- Candidates enrolled in the prior credential program by August 31, 2010, may complete either the old program or the new program, without converting to the new three-year credential.

- *Prior programs must verify completion of Level I preparation to the employers (rather than the Commission) within two years of the issue date of the preliminary credential or transition candidates to a new three-year CTE program.*
- Candidates who do not complete Level I of the prior program within the first two years of holding the credential must complete the new CTE program.
- Candidates must complete all prior vocational programs requirements before August 31, 2013, or complete a new CTE program. All prior vocational education programs expire on August 31, 2013.

## **References**

### ***CTE Credential Information Leaflet***

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/leaflets/cl880.pdf>

### ***CTE Program Standards Handbook***

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/educator-prep/standards/CTE-Handbook.pdf>

### ***Commission Agenda Items***

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/commission/agendas/2007-12/2007-12-3G.pdf>

### ***Information on how to apply for a waiver:***

<http://www.ctc.ca.gov/credentials/cig/HANDBOOKS/WaiverHandbook.pdf>

## **Contact Information**

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